

Message Text

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PAGE 01 ROME 03064 252356Z

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ACTION CU-03

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 USIA-06 /022 W

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R 251805Z FEB 76

FM AMEMBASSY ROME

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5962

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE ROME 3064

E. O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: OEXC, IT

SUBJ: FY-1976 INTERNATIONAL VISITORS PROGRAM

FOR: CU/WE

REF: 75 ROME A-524

1. PROPOSE PROJECT FOR YOUNG ITALIAN POLITICAL LEADERS OF KIND FORMERLY HANDLED BY AMERICAN COUNCIL YOUNG POLITICAL LEADERS. THIS WOULD INVOLVE TWO GROUPS OF EIGHT, ONE REPRESENTING THE DEMOCRATIC CHRISTIAN PARTY AND ONE THE SOCIALISTS. WE BELIEVE BICENTENNIAL AND U. S. ELECTIONS PROVIDE DOUBLE OPPORTUNITY REACH YOUNG LEADERS WHO COULD MAKE EFFECTIVE CONTRIBUTION IN NEAR FUTURE TOWARDS MORE POSITIVE TURNINGS IN POLITICAL DEVELOPMENTS HERE.

2. SPECIAL GOALS: A) BOLSTER CONFIDENCE IN WESTERN DEMOCRATIC POLITICAL SYSTEMS AS BEST RESPONSE TO RAPID SOCIAL CHANGE; B) PROVIDE DIRECT EXPOSURE TO U.S. POLITICAL CAMPAIGN TECHNIQUES; C) REGISTER OF VOTE OF U.S. CONFIDENCE AND POSSIBLE PUBLICITY ASSISTANCE TO SELECTED INDIVIDUALS. TO ACCOMPLISH THESE, WILL REQUIRE RADICALLY DIFFERENT PROGRAM THAN USUAL IVP EFFORT. E.G. MEETING STUMPING CANDIDATES NOT ENOUGH, NEED MEET WITH FIRMS SPECIALIZING IN POLITICAL CONSULTATION, OPINION SURVEYING, WITH APPROACH FLEXIBLE ENOUGH TO SUGGEST APPLICATIONS TO NON-U.S. SITUATIONS. NEED MEET U.S. POLITICAL FIGURES WHOSE PHOTOS WITH THEM WILL MAKE HAY AT HOME, WITH SENSITIVITY TO THOSE WHOSE IMAGE IN ITALY POSITIVE. NEED SUBSTANTIVE AND POLICY BRIEFINGS

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WHICH DELIVER MATERIAL OF DIRECT AND IMMEDIATE USEFULNESS FOR

THEIR OWN CAMPAIGN USES, WHICH VARY ACCORDING TO EACH GRANTEE:
E.G. REASONS FOR OPTIMISM ITALIAN ECONOMY IF TIES TO WEST STRONG;
DEMONSTRATION OF U.S. FAITH IN AND SUPPORT FOR UNITED EUROPE
OF MODERATE GOVERNMENTS; FACTS ON EAST-WEST RELATIONS INCLUDING
MILITARY BALANCE.

4. VIEW IMPLEMENTATION OF LISTS I AND II OF IVP SUBMISSIONS
AS FIRST PRIORITY. THEREFORE REQUEST SUPPLEMENTAL FUNDS BEYOND
THESE TO COVER THESE SIXTEEN GRANTEES. INITIAL CONTACT WITH
BOTH PARTIES IN PRINCIPLE INDICATE POSSIBILITY THEIR FUNDING
INTERNATIONAL TRAVEL; HOPEFULLY THIS WILL LEAD TOWARDS RETURN
TRIP BY U.S. YOUNG POLS IN EARLY FUTURE ON SAME BASIS.
OBVIOUS REASONS DICTATE NECESSITY THAT THESE TWO GROUPS MUST BE
CONCEIVED OF TOGETHER, I.E. DC GROUP SHOULD NOT TRAVEL WITHOUT PSI
GROUP PLANNING UNDERWAY.

5. TWO ADDITIONAL IV GROUP PROJECTS UNDER DISCUSSION AND WILL
FORWARD BY END OF WEEK, BUT PRESENT PROJECT CLEAR PRIORITY.
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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptoning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: n/a
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 25 FEB 1976
Decapton Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decapton Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: morefirh
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1976ROME03064
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D760071-1093
From: ROME
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1976/newtext/t19760214/aaaaalwv.tel
Line Count: 80
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION CU
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 76 ROME A-524
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: morefirh
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 10 MAY 2004
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <10 MAY 2004 by BoyleJA>; APPROVED <06 JUL 2004 by morefirh>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
04 MAY 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: FY-1976 INTERNATIONAL VISITORS PROGRAM FOR: CU/WE
TAGS: OEXC, IT
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006